

SENATE RESOLUTION 231

By McNally

A RESOLUTION relative to pharmacy benefits for state employees and retirees.

WHEREAS, effective July 1, 2010, pharmacy benefits for all State of Tennessee group health insurance program members will be administered pursuant to a new management contract; and

WHEREAS, while state government is attempting to provide the highest quality pharmacy benefits to state employees and retirees at the lowest possible cost by entering into such contract, certainly a laudable goal, there may be unintended consequences to smaller, independent pharmacy providers; and

WHEREAS, the economies of scale that large national pharmacy chains achieve in procuring pharmaceuticals are simply not available to smaller, independent pharmacy providers, thus creating a competitive inequity that favors the larger pharmacies; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that this Body hereby expresses its concern that the State of Tennessee's new contract, effective July 1, 2010, to manage pharmacy benefits for state group health insurance members is structured in such a manner that large national pharmacies are being provided an unfair competitive advantage and that independent pharmacies will be unable to participate profitably in the pharmacy benefits plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Commissioner of Finance and Administration.